

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 88

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: Sarah Caplan

PRESENT POSITION student

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 1-7-66 Cleveland, Ohio

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: Painting

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.): I am currently finishing a B.A. in Fine Arts/Art History at Oberlin College. I spent my junior year studying at the Parsons School of Design in Paris.

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

In high school a collage of mine was chosen for a student exhibition in the Marin Civic Center in Marin County, California. (1983).

I had a number of works in the Parsons end-of-the-year show in Paris, 1987. I am currently having a senior show at Oberlin College.

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS:

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

My paintings tend to use as a starting point representations of superficial aspects of myself, or objects in my environment which attract me. Both processes have to do with a search, whether inwardly or outwardly oriented, and deal with the deconstruction of systems I choose to confront.

Some of my works deal with photography as a process of objectification, and ultimately, as a kind of death. The painting chosen for the show uses photography as a source of inspiration; photographs of myself are transformed to take on a less superficial, more ambiguous quality. Thus, it is more life-like and not so mythical.

Although there may be a sense of narrative to the painting, unlike photography, it does not objectify and assign an absolute to the image ("that must have been there"). This ambiguity allows multiple meanings to take place as each viewer reacts and intuits what it might be about.